



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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F.W.S. DIRECTOR, U.S. SENATOR
DENOUNCE GAME-LAW VIOLATORS

Incessant reports of out-of-season shooting and the illegal marketing of wild ducks in scattered sections of the country have brought harsh denunciations of game-law violators from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and a U.S. Senator.

Albert M. Day, the Service's Director, today warned that game-law violators endanger the future of legal shooting for the millions of American outdoorsmen who abide by the hunting regulations.

He said that it is ironic that so many hunters are indiscriminately called 'sportsmen,' when the "meaning of the word 'sportsmanship' is disregarded so often."

Discussing the increasing number of game-law violations on the floor of the U.S. Senate, March 24, Senator A. Willis Robertson, of Virginia, made an appeal "...to all sportsmen, nature-lovers and law-abiding citizens in those states where our inadequate supply of ducks and geese is being decimated to voluntarily come to the help of Federal and state wardens to end this disgraceful slaughter."

"And I appeal to all the U.S. District judges before whom cases are pending to recognize the gravity of this offense, and to impose a punishment calculated to deter it," he said.

Senator Robertson stated that since the close of the legal season, 600 cases of flagrant violations have been uncovered in the lower Mississippi valley.

Said the Senator: "There have been an average of 20 enforcement agents operating in that area since the legal season closed...at least 75 are needed, along with more active cooperation on the part of the individual states."

The Senator also called for an increase in the price of the \$1 Federal Duck Stamp, to give the Fish and Wildlife Service more adequate funds for law-enforcement. He urged state conservation departments and sportsmen to support bills introduced by Senator Edwin C. Johnson, of Colorado, and Representative Clark W. Thompson, of Texas, to increase the price to \$2.

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